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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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AIR

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State  
 Info : TEHRAN, DAMASCUS, MOSCOW, PARIS for DINEUR/POLAD,  
 EUCOM/POLAD, ROME for ROOD

FROM : AmEmbassy, ANKARA DATE: November 6, 1962

SUBJECT : Officials' Views on Cuban Situation

REF : a-3

In commenting on how things stood on Cuba and what the Soviets might do next,

to the reporting officer that the most effective way to get Castro to cooperate these days is through the Soviets. He felt that all along the Soviets did not wish to go to war over Cuba because there is no way to fight there except through nuclear warfare and he was sure that the Soviets did not wish to start a "nuclear war" at this time. Cuba is so exposed as to position, so far removed from Russia, that it could not be defended by the Soviets with conventional weapons of war; the Soviets have no way to conduct a limited war over Cuba. Thus, when the U.S. took its determined stand, the Soviets realized the logistical problems and the facts of the situation and decided to compromise. While he had no information on the subject, felt instinctively that some future move on the part of the Soviets, after having been "burned" on Cuba, could be anticipated, very possibly it could be real pressure in a locale where they could in fact and if necessary conduct a limited war. The reporting officer agreed that the Cuban affair had pointed up the need for increased vigilance, that there should be no let down in alliance defenses across the board.

For the Ambassador:

Philip Clock  
 Counselor of Embassy

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FORM 4-62 DS-323

Drafted by:

PClock/226 DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDD/MB POL:PClock

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